

THE URBANA FREE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2002

Present: Mary Ellen Farrell, William Golden, Kermit Harden, Beth Scheid, Chris Scherer, Charlie Smyth, Michael Stevenson, Odell Warren, and Jane Williams.

Absent: None.

Staff present: Debra Booth, Barbara Lintner, Fred Schlipf, and Phyllis Max Spiro.

Also present: Simon Rosenzweig.

The Urbana Free Library Board of Trustees met at a regular meeting held in the Archives of The Urbana Free Library on January 8, 2002. The meeting was called to order by the president, Michael Stevenson, at 7:33 p.m.

It was moved by Kermit Harden, seconded by Odell Warren, and passed unanimously that the minutes of the December 11 meeting be approved as mailed.

It was moved by William Golden, seconded by Jane Williams, and passed unanimously that the following bills be approved retrospectively for payment:

December 19, 2001 – General Fund, \$100,263.63; Trust Fund, \$920.19; Publications Fund, \$651.95; Document Center Fund, \$205.83.

January 2, 2002 – General Fund, \$120,668.87; Trust Fund, \$1,086.46; Documents Fund, \$50.00; Publications Fund, \$353.31.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Automation

No report.

Building and Grounds

Charlie Smyth and Michael Stevenson will reschedule their meeting with Fred Schlipf to tour and review the physical condition of the Library building.

Education and Training

No report.

Finance

The Library staff will ask the Finance Committee to meet soon to begin work on the 2002/2003 budget.

The amount of money per capita in the annual Per Capita Grant from the Illinois Secretary of State's Office was cut very slightly this year.

Friends of The Urbana Free Library

No report.

Lincoln Trail Libraries System

No report.

Long Range Planning

The Library staff is about to embark on redoing the library's ***Technology Plan***. Board members Mel Farrell, William Golden, Beth Scheid, and Charlie Smyth offered to help draft the new plan. The Library is required to have an up-to-date ***Technology Plan*** to qualify for e-rate funds.

Policy

The new state non-resident rules have been postponed pending hearings on the law. Under the law, people who live outside public library taxing jurisdictions must purchase non-resident cards at the "nearest" public library. These cards will then be honored by all other public libraries. The Illinois State Library estimates that the law will go into effect sometime around May 1.

March 2 is the court date for the hearing on federal legislation requiring that libraries that receive federal funds filter all of their computers.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

The mailing to all Urbana patron library cardholders has netted about \$40,000. In all, 11,997 pieces of mail were sent.

The business campaign is still in full swing, with volunteers calling local businesses.

A video of Roger Ebert's talk at the Foundation's fundraising event is now available for sale at the Library. The full 80-minute talk costs \$20.00, and a shorter 30-minute edited version is available for \$15.00.

The Foundation has received a check for \$30,000 from the County Board.

Roger Ebert has generously donated a complete collection of the American Film Institute's 100 greatest American movies on videocassette.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Executive Director

The architects will report to the Board soon on the status of building expansion plans.

The Illinois Secretary of State has officially confirmed the \$250,000 construction grant from the Illinois State Library.

The revised construction estimate is \$470,000 over the planned \$6.85 million project cost.

Operating statistics show that circulation has increased, but that the library's interlibrary loan figures and door count are down. The rise in circulation could be explained by many factors, such as the economic downturn. People buy fewer books and use libraries more when money is tight.

The Gates foundation has awarded the library \$12,500 to purchase new computers for public use. The money will buy a server, a printer, and four computers.

Mary Wilkes Towner of the Library's adult reference staff will teach the Adult Popular Literature course at the University of Illinois library school this spring. Fred Schlipf developed the course many years ago, but he is too busy to teach it this year, and will do only some guest lecturing.

Adult Department

No report.

Children's Department

The children's librarians will be doing 20 to 24 preschool daycare visits in February.

The library will host the Yankee Ridge School Night on January 24.

Elaine Bearden is the Library's representative on the Cultural Consortium, which includes a number of local cultural agencies.

Barbara Lintner is on a committee to write a youth services handbook for the State of Illinois.

Special Collections

From the estate of Clayton Daugherty, the Archives has received about 10 cubic feet of handwritten research notes on various topics in Champaign County history.

The Winkelmann building is having sewer problems.

Reporters from Channel 3 came to film some historic photos of the winter storm of 1967.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No report.

NEW BUSINESS

No report.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Phyllis Max Spiro, Recording Secretary